GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:732
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2015
Introduction of Short Haul Flights
Pala Shri Vincent H

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to introduce short haul flights in the North Eastern region of the country, if so, the details and the present status thereof; and

(b) the reasons for delay in achieving proper air connectivity between various destinations within the North Eastern region of the country?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
(Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) & (b): No, Madam. As per Winter Schedule 2015 following cities of North East are connected by Scheduled domestic carriers. Diburgarh, Guwahati, Jorhat, Lilabari, Silchar, Tezpur(all in Assam), Imphal(Manipur), Shillong(Meghalaya), Aizwal(Mezoram), Dimapur(Nagaland), Agartala(Tripura)

Further, Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines(RDGs) with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. However, as per the RDGs all scheduled operators are required to deploy in the North Eastern region, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep (Category-II routes) at least 10% of their deployed capacity on trunk routes (Category-I routes). Further, at least 10% of the capacity thus required to be deployed on Category-II routes, is required to be deployed for connectivity exclusively within these regions.